

Serial No.: 10/766,508
Attorney Docket No.: 8B12.1-011
PATENT

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A portable deer and game feeder comprising:
a feed assembly including a tub-like-feeder box; and a support frame for supporting the feeder box, the support frame including a plurality of removable legs for supporting the feeder box above the ground;
a roof extending over the feeder box and being large enough to overhang the edges of the feeder box;
a plurality of removable roof supports ~~posts~~ for supporting the roof over the feeder box, the roof supports removably attached to the feed assembly and the roof;
and
wherein the removable legs and the removable roof supports are sized and configured to be detached and stowed entirely within the feeder box for transport.
2. (currently amended) A portable deer and game feeder as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the feeder box has a top that is flat and the roof comprises at least two roof panels that are hinged together, such that with the roof panels extended in use the roof overhangs the feeder box to a substantial degree, and with both of the roof panels detached from the roof supports and folded flat against one another the roof can be positioned atop the feeder box like a lid.
3. (currently amended) A portable deer and game feeder as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the feeder box comprises a one-piece, tub-like, molded plastic element.
4. (original) A portable deer and game feeder as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the feeder box has a peripheral flange and further comprising a support framework mounted to the support legs for engaging the peripheral flange.

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5. (cancelled)
6. (currently amended) A portable feeder for deer and game, comprising:
a feed assembly comprising a feed box for holding animal feed;
a roof covering the feed box; and
one or more roof supports detachably coupled to the feed assembly box and the roof, wherein the roof supports fit entirely inside the feed box for storage when the roof supports are disassembled from the feed assembly box and the roof, wherein the feeder can be quickly and easily assembled for temporary use, disassembled for transport and storage, and reassembled and disassembled repeatedly.
7. (original) The feeder of Claim 6, further comprising a feed box frame for supporting the feed box, the feed box frame including a plurality of removable legs, wherein the legs fit inside the feed box for storage when the legs are disassembled from the feed box frame.
8. (currently amended) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the roof supports each comprise at least one generally vertical central segment, at least three top end segments extending upward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment, and at least two bottom end segments extending downward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment, wherein at least one of the top end segments is detachably coupled to the central segment.

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9. (original) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the feed box has a feed box body and a peripheral lip, and further comprising a feed box frame for supporting the feed box, the feed box frame having a peripheral member for supporting the feed box peripheral lip, at least one rib member for supporting the feed box body, and a plurality of legs removably coupled to the peripheral member, wherein the feed box frame legs fit within the feed box when disassembled from the feed box frame.
10. (currently amended) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the roof comprises at least two panels hinged together and shaped and sized so that when the feeder is disassembled with the roof detached from the roof supports, the roof can be collapsed flat with the panels folded over onto each other and positioned over the feed box as a lid.
11. (original) The feeder of Claim 10, wherein one of the panels has a portion overlapping the other panel when the panels are unfolded and assembled onto the feeder to direct rainwater from leaking between the roof panels and into the feed box.
12. (original) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the roof comprises at least two half-roofs hinged together, with each half-roof comprising at least two panels that can be folded against each other such that the entire roof can be folded up and stowed inside the feed box.
13. (new) A portable deer and game feeder as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the feeder box support frame includes hollow stubs and the legs are removably coupled to the leg attachment elements in a telescopic arrangement.

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14. (new) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the feed assembly includes a plurality of leg attachment elements and a plurality of removable legs, wherein the legs are removably coupled to the leg attachment elements in a telescopic arrangement, and the legs fit entirely inside the feed box for storage when the legs are disassembled from the feed assembly.

15. (new) The feeder of Claim 14, wherein the leg attachment elements comprise hollow stubs that telescopically receive the legs therein.

16. (new) A portable deer and game feeder as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the roof supports each comprise at least one generally vertical central segment, at least three top end segments extending upward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment, and at least two bottom end segments extending downward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment, wherein at least one of the top end segments is detachably coupled to the central segment.

17. (new) The feeder of Claim 6, wherein the roof supports each comprise at least one central segment, two top end segments extending upward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment, and two bottom end segments extending downward from the central segment and angled with respect to each other and with respect to the central segment.

18. (new) The feeder of Claim 17, wherein each one the roof supports comprises two elongate members each including one of the central segments, one of the top end segments, and one of the bottom end segments.

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19. (new) The feeder of Claim 17, wherein the roof supports each further comprise a third top end segment that is detachably coupled to the central segment, wherein the third top end segment extends upward from the central segment and is angled with respect to the other two top end segments and with respect to the central segment when the third top end segment is assembled for use.

20. (new) The feeder of Claim 19, wherein when one of the roof supports is assembled for use, the central segment is generally vertical, and the two top end segments, the central segment, and the two bottom end segments all lie in one plane, but the third top end segment does not lie in the same plane.

21. (new) The feeder of Claim 20, wherein a first one of the roof supports is detachably mounted at a first end of the feed assembly and a second one of the roof supports is detachably mounted at a second end of the feed assembly, wherein the first and second ends of the feed assembly are opposite each other and the third top segments are angled toward each other over the feed box.